

ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Conversation (17a1–27d4)

- 17a1–19b2: Socrates summarizes his speech of the previous day.
- 19b3–20c3: Socrates gives instructions to the other speakers.
- 20c4–27d4: Critias recounts Solon's visit to Egypt and the story of the triumph of ancient Athens over the might of Atlantis.

Timaeus' Discourse (27d5–92c9)

PROLOGUE TO THE DISCOURSE: 27d5–29d6

- 27d5–28b2: Being and Becoming, Model and Image.
- 28b2–29b1: The universe has come to be.
- 29b1–29d6: An account of the universe (world) is merely a "likely" account.

THE CRAFTSMANSHIP OF INTELLECT: 29d7–47e2

- 29d7–30c1: Why the world was made and why it is a living thing (an animal).
- 30c2–31a1: The world is a living thing that contains all living things.
- 31a2–31b3: There can be but one world.
- 31b4–32c4: The composition of the world's body.
- 32c5–34b9: Other characteristics of the world's body.
- 34b10–36d7: The composition of the world's soul.
- 36d8–37c5: The union of the world's soul with its body.
- 37c6–38b5: The creation of time.

- 38b6–38e3: The creation of the Sun, Moon, and planets as markers of time.
- 38e3–39e2: Periods of the markers of time: day/nights, months, years, and the Perfect Year.
- 39e3–40d5: Creation of the stars, the “heavenly race of gods.”
- 40d6–41a3: The fabled origin of the popular deities.
- 41a3–41d3: The created gods (Sun, Moon, planets, and stars) commissioned to create the remaining living things.
- 41d4–42e4: The creation of individual souls.
- 42e5–44d2: The creation of bodies and the union of body and soul.
- 44d3–45b2: The creation of various bodily parts.
- 45b2–46a2: Eyes and sight.
- 46a2–46c6: The explanation of mirror images.
- 46c7–46e6: Digressionary comment: the distinction between primary (intelligent) and auxiliary (nonintelligent) causes.
- 46e6–47c4: The purpose of eyesight.
- 47c4–47e2: The purpose of hearing, speech, and music.

THE EFFECTS OF NECESSITY: 47e3–69a5

- 47e3–48b3: A new starting point: the introduction of “Necessity.”
- 48b3–48e1: Fire, air, water, and earth are not the ultimate constituents of things.
- 48e2–49a6: Not two, but three, factors are required in explaining the physical universe.
- 49a6–50b5: The Receptacle: the ultimate substratum that becomes variously qualified.
- 50b5–51b6: Forms, Receptacle, and Images distinguished.
- 51b6–51e6: Proof of the distinction between visible particulars and intelligible Forms.

- 51e6–52d4: Recapitulation of the tripartite ontology.
- 52d4–53a2: The precosmic erratic motions in and of the Receptacle.
- 53a2–53b5: The precosmic “traces” of the primary bodies in the Receptacle.
- 53b5–54b5: The ultimate constituents of the four primary bodies: two kinds of right-angled triangles.
- 54b5–54d5: Not all elemental bodies can be transformed into each other.
- 54d5–55c6: The formation of solid structures out of the ultimate triangles.
- 55c7–55d6: The uniqueness of the world reaffirmed.
- 55d7–56c7: Assignment of four of the solid structures to the elemental bodies.
- 56c8–57c6: The intertransformations of fire, air, and water.
- 57c7–57d6: Why there are different varieties of each of the elemental bodies.
- 57d7–58a2: Motion and rest are due to the absence or presence of uniformity.
- 58a2–58c4: Why elemental intertransformations continue to occur.
- 58c5–60e2: Varieties of fire, air, water, and earth identified and described.
- 60e2–61c2: How the elemental bodies and water-earth compounds are dissolved.
- 61c3–64a1: The various sensible properties of elemental bodies and their compounds: hot and cold, hard and soft, heavy and light (and below and above), smooth and rough.
- 64a2–68d7: The physiology of sensation: pleasure and pain, tastes, smells, sounds, and colors.
- 68e1–69a5: Conclusion of the second part of the Discourse.

THE COOPERATION OF INTELLECT AND NECESSITY IN
THE PSYCHOPHYSICAL FORMATION OF MAN AND
OTHER LIVING THINGS: 69a6–92c9

- 69a6–69c5: Introduction to the third part of the Discourse.
- 69c5–71e2: The assignment of the immortal and the mortal kinds of soul to different parts of the body.
- 71e2–72d3: A digression on divination.
- 72d4–74e1: The formation and purpose of other bodily parts: the abdomen, the marrow, bones (skull and vertebrae), sinews, and flesh.
- 74e1–75d5: The distribution of flesh and sinews.
- 75d5–76e6: The formation of the mouth, skin, hair, and nails.
- 76e7–77c5: The creation of plants.
- 77c6–79e9: The blood vessels and digestive and respiratory systems: the “fish trap” and the circular thrust.
- 79e10–80c8: Digression on other applications of the circular thrust.
- 80d1–81e5: The mechanism of respiration applied to the digestive process.
- 81e6–86a8: Diseases of the body:
(a) irregularities in the distribution of the elemental kinds (81e6–82b7).
(b) diseases of particular tissues and organs (82b8–84c7).
(c) diseases involving air, phlegm, and bile (84c8–86a8).
- 86b1–87b9: Diseases of the soul:
(a) two kinds of mindlessness: madness and ignorance (86b1–b5).
(b) madness caused by excessive pleasures and pains (86b5–87b9).
- 87c1–88b5: Psychophysical well-being: soul and body in appropriate proportion.
- 88b5–89a1: The need to exercise both body and soul.

- 89a1–89d4: Motions that preserve and restore physical well-being.
- 89d4–90d7: Exercising the rational soul: conforming its motion to that of the universe.
- 90e1–92c3: Concluding remarks—the origin of other animals:
(a) the generation of women and the physiology of human reproduction (90e6–91d6).
(b) the generation of birds, land animals, and fish (91d6–92c3).
- 92c4–92c9: Conclusion of the Discourse.